AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-29. (Cancelled)

30. (Previously Presented) A composition for application to a nasal membrane to reduce symptoms associated with allergies and the common cold, the composition comprising:

about 90 to about 99.999 weight percent of a carrier;

about 0.001 to about 5.0 weight percent of an active ingredient comprising oxymetazoline hydrochloride; and

about 0.00001 to about 5.0 weight percent of a permeation enhancer comprising liposomes;

wherein the composition has a viscosity between about 2,500 and about 40,000 centipoise.

31. (Previously Presented) A composition for application to a nasal membrane to reduce symptoms associated with allergies and the common cold, the composition comprising:

about 90 to about 99.999 weight percent of a carrier;

about 0.001 to about 5.0 weight percent of an active ingredient comprising oxymetazoline hydrochloride;

about 0.00001 to about 5.0 weight percent of a permeation enhancer comprising liposomes; and

about 0.000001 to about 1.0 weight percent of an aromatic substance comprising at least one of menthol or eucalyptus extract;

wherein the composition has a viscosity between about 2,500 and about 40,000 centipoise.

32.-39. (Cancelled)

40. (Previously Presented) A composition for application to a nasal membrane to reduce symptoms associated with allergies and the common cold, the composition consisting essentially of:

about 0.045 wt % to about 0.055 wt % oxymetazoline;

about 0.00001 wt % to about 5.0 wt % permeation enhancer;

about 0 wt % to about 1.0 wt % aromatic substance selected from the group consisting of camphor, eucalyptus oil, menthol, azulen, extracts thereof, and mixtures thereof;

0.00001% to about 1.0% by weight of aloe barbadensis gel;

about 0.0001 wt % to about 1.0 wt % preservative;

about 0.000001 to about 5.0 wt % thickener;

0.05% to about 5.0% by weight glycerin;

about 90 wt % to about 99 wt % water;

about 0.00001 wt % to about 1.0 wt % emulsion agent; and

about 0.0002 wt % to about 6.0 wt % buffer.

41. (New) The composition of claim 40, wherein the viscosity of the composition is about 2,500 cp to about 40,000 cp.

42. (New) The composition of claim 40, wherein the viscosity of the composition is about 3,000 cp to about 10,000 cp.

43. (New) The composition of claim 40, wherein the viscosity of the composition is about 4,000 cp to about 6,000 cp.

44. (New) The composition of claim 40, wherein the viscosity of the composition is about 5,000 cp to about 40,000 cp.

45. (New) The composition of claim 40, wherein the viscosity of the composition is about 5,000 cp to about 7,500 cp.

46. (New) The composition of claim 40, wherein the viscosity of the composition is about 5,000 cp to about 6,000 cp.

47. (New) The composition of claim 40, wherein the thickener comprises a compound selected from the group consisting of carrageenan, sugar, guar gum, methylcellulose, and hydroxyethylcellulose.

48. (New) The composition of claim 40, wherein the thickener comprises hydroxyethylcellulose.

49. (New) The composition of claim 40, wherein the composition is in the form of a gelled matrix.

50. (New) The composition of claim 40, wherein the preservative comprises benzyl alcohol, benzalkonium chloride, disodium EDTA, and mixtures thereof.

51. (New) The composition of claim 40, wherein the preservative includes benzyl alcohol, benzalkonium chloride, and disodium EDTA.

52. (New) The composition of claim 40, wherein the permeation enhancer comprises a compound selected from the group consisting of liposomes, sequestering agents, ascorbic acid (Vitamin C), glycerol, chitosan, and lysophosphotidylcholin.

53. (New) The composition of claim 40, wherein the emulsion agent is selected from the group consisting of glycerolpolyethylene glycol ricinoleate, fatty acid esters of polyethyleneglycol, ethoxylated glycerol, polyethylene glycol, and mixtures thereof.

54. (New) The composition of claim 40, wherein the emulsion agent comprises hydroxylated lecithin.

55. (New) The composition of claim 40, wherein the buffer comprises disodium phosphate, monosodium phosphate, or mixtures thereof.

56. (New) The composition of claim 40, wherein the buffer comprises about 0.0001% to about 3.0% of disodium phosphate and 0.0001% to about 3.0% of monosodium phosphate.

57. (New) A method of applying an effective amount of an active substance to a nasal membrane, the method comprising the steps of:

providing the composition of claim 40; and

applying the composition in the nasal cavity.